

## Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 IGA-01 HEW-06 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SWF-01

/080 W

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R 221635Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8387

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 4547

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, PINT, HO

SUBJ: REACTION TO MIAMI HERALD ARTICLE ALLEGING

GOH MISMANAGEMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES

1. SUBJECT ARTICLE DATED OCTOBER 14 CHARGED  
CONFISCATION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES BY GOH AND ALLEGED  
OTHER IMPROPRIETIES ON PART OF RELIEF WORKERS,  
INCLUDING MEMBERS OF NICARAGUA RED CROSS.

2. ARTICLE CAUGHT GOH AND OTHER RELIEF DISTRIBUTION  
OFFICIALS STILL SMARTING DEFENSIVELY AS RESULT OF  
SIMILARLY DAMAGING COMMENTS PUBLISHED BY AN  
AMERICAN WEEKLY MAGAZINE. HONDURAN PRESS,  
HOWEVER, HAS PRESENTED UNIFIED FRONT IN SUPPORT  
OF HONDURAN EFFORTS TO DISTRIBUTE RELIEF SUPPLIES.

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3. LA NOTICIA OF OCTOBER 17TH PUBLISHED ARTICLE

AND PHOTOS SHOWING COPEN OFFICIALS MAKING  
PERSONAL RECONNAISSANCE AND INVESTIGATIONS.

4. TIEMPO OF OCTOBER 17TH CARRIED AN ARTICLE  
LAMENTING DAMAGES DONE TO THE PRESTIGE OF HONDURAN  
PEOPLE BY HEARSAY.

5. EL DIA OF OCTOBER 17TH CARRIES EDITORIAL ACCUSING  
"AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER" OF VENAL, YELLOW JOURNALISM;  
OF OFFERING ITS COLUMNS FOR THE PRICE OF 30 PIECES OF  
SILVER. IT WENT ON INDIGNANTLY TO PROCLAIM THAT CERTAIN  
NORTH AMERICAN MAGAZINES SUFFER FROM AN INCURABLE  
MENTAL ANEMIA.

6. LA NOTICIA OF OCTOBER 18TH INCLUDES A PHOTO AND AN ARTICLE  
HEADLINED  
"ANOTHER REFUTATION OF AMERICAN DOCTOR". IT CITES INTERNATIONAL  
AND HONDURAN RED CROSS SOURCES AS CHALLENGING THE VERACITY OF  
COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO A CERTAIN DOCTOR QUOTED IN AN AMERICAN  
NEWSPAPER.

7. LA PRENSA OF OCTOBER 19TH CARRIES A PICTURE STORY  
ENTITLED "INHABITANTS OF CUYAMEL DENY ACCUSATION OF  
DR. AUSTIN". PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS A MAN, IDENTIFIED  
AS ERNESTO GIBBONS, ONE DR. AUSTIN'S INTERPRETERS,  
ADDRESSING A MEETING OF VOLUNTEERS AND REPORTEDLY PRESENTING  
TO THIS MEETING REFUTATIONS OF DR. AUSTIN'S COMMENTS.

8. TIEMPO OF OCTOBER 19TH CARRIED A SIMILAR ARTICLE  
HEADLINED "INTERPRETERS ANGRY AT STATEMENTS OF DR.  
AUSTIN". THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE QUOTES THE INTERPRETERS  
AS DECLARING THAT DR. AUSTIN PROBABLY DID NOT UNDERSTAND  
WELL ENOUGH SINCE THE SPANISH THE DOCTOR SPOKE "HAD BEEN  
LEARNED IN THE BAY ISLANDS".

9. LA NOTICIA OF OCTOBER 19TH CARRIES FRONT PAGE HEADLINE  
"AUSTIN LIES".

10. COMMENT: ACCUSATIONS PRINTED IN SUBJECT  
ARTICLE PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY WERE BASED UPON  
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SECONDARY SOURCES, COULD NOT HAVE COME AT A  
WORSE POSSIBLE TIME. IT WAS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE  
THAT THEY WERE PRINTED IN AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER.  
HOWEVER, SAME NEWSPAPER CARRIES AN ARTICLE BY  
WILLIAM MONTEALBANO DATED OCTOBER 21ST WHICH WE HOPE WILL  
GO A LONG WAY TO SMOOTH RUFFLED FEATHERS. MORE IMPORTANTLY  
WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT BADLY NEEDED FLOW OF SUPPLIES  
CAN CONTINUE.

SANCHEZ

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 OCT 1974  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REACTION TO MIAMI HERALD ARTICLE ALLEGING GOH MISMANAGEMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES  
**TAGS:** SWEL, PINT, HO, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005